

«Important National Cultural Asset»

Atami Hyuga Villa designed by Bruno Taut

Kyu-Hyuga-Bettei (1936)

Open:	Saturdays, Sundays and National Holidays <u>Reservation Required</u> (Please look at the reverse side for the procedure.)
Fees:	¥300
Direction:	8 min. walk from Atami Station There are only 2 parking spaces next to the site. It is about 5 min. walk from the City Parking of Atami Station.
Address:	8-37 Kasuga-cho, Atami 413-0005 Shizuoka, Japan
Phone:	0557-81-2747 (Open Hours Only) 0557-86-6232 (Weekdays; Atami City Office)
URL:	http://www.city.atami.shizuoka.jp (Japanese)
Email:	bunka@city.atami.shizuoka.jp

Kyu-Hyuga-Bettei stands on a hill overlooking Sagami Bay in the vicinity of Atami Station. The “annex,” created in the underground space below the yard, was designed by Bruno Taut, a renowned German architect who loved Japanese culture and nature. This is the only building by Taut that still exists in Japan. It is a fruitage of his ambitious undertakings to harmonize his works with nature, to pursue the best quality color for each space and to express “something Japanese” that he captured during his stay and “something western” from his background in unique manners.



Rihei Hyuga, an owner of Asian trading business, purchased a subdivision lot with hot spring water supplies in Kasuga-cho, Atami in 1933. The country house was built between 1934 and 1936 there.

The 2-story-house above ground was designed by Hitoshi

Bruno Taut (1880-1938) is a globally recognized architect of Germany in the early 20th century. In 1933, invited by the International Architectural Association of Japan, he came to Japan from Germany where the Nazi power was rising. Inspired by the traditional culture and beauty of Japanese construction blended into natural background, such as Katsura Detached Palace and Ise Shrine, he wrote *Rediscovery of Japanese Beauty* and other books on Japan. He also taught designing and making of craft objects in Sendai and Takasaki.

Watanabe, known for Wako Shop in Ginza, Tokyo and Tokyo National Museum in Ueno.

The land lot is steeply sloping toward the sea. Instead of the earth retaining foundation necessary for the house from slipping off, Taut chose a semi-basement made of steel-reinforced concrete which allowed him to create some rooms within, and a green yard above it. As for the design of the yard, there are some signs of involvement of a then famous garden designer, Tsuyoshi Tamura, a son-in-law of Rihei Hyuga.

Since 1952 the villa had been owned by a private company and used as recreational facilities, until November 2004 when Atami city acquired it with a donation by a lady living in Tokyo. In 2003, it was designated as one of the Docomomo* Japan Selection, in August 2005 as a Tangible Cultural Asset (building) of Atami city, and in July 2006 as an Important National Cultural Asset.

How to Make a Reservation

1. Write names and addresses of all the persons who will visit the Kyu-Hyuga-Bettei.
2. Write a phone number (and fax number, if you send your note by fax) of the group leader.
3. List 3 time slots you wish to come, from 9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 13:00, 14:00 and 15:00 on Saturdays, Sundays and National Holidays. Maximum of 10 persons can enter the villa each time. Example; 1) 9:30 on Sat. July 28, 2) 13:00 on Sun. July 29 and 3) 14:00 on Sun. July 29
4. Send the above information via fax, postal mail or e-mail to Bunka-Koryu-ka (Cultural and International Affairs Section) of Atami City Office.
5. We will send you a confirmation note. Please bring it and your ID when you visit us.

Thank you for your cooperation for preserving the important cultural asset.

Bunka-Koryu-ka, Atami City Office

Address: 1-1 Chuo-cho, Atami, 413-8550 Shizuoka
Phone: 0557-86-6232 (8:30-17:00 on Weekdays)
Fax: 0557-86-6199
URL: <http://www.city.atami.shizuoka.jp> (Japanese)
E-mail: bunka@city.atami.shizuoka.jp

* Docomomo International, the Documentation and Conservation of buildings' sites and neighborhood of the Modern Movement, is a non-profit organization initiated in 1988 by Hubert-Jan Henket, architect and professor, and Wessel de Jonge, architect and research fellow, at the School of Architecture at the Technical University in Eindhoven, the Netherlands. In 2002, the International secretariat relocated to Paris and is presently hosted by the Cité de l'architecture et du patrimoine in the Palais de Chaillot. Docomomo Japan joined the affiliation as a local branch at the general assembly in 2000 at Brazilia.